

Inman House
(University of South Dakota, Alumni House)
415 E. Main Street
Vermillion
Clay County
South Dakota

HABS No. SD-13

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE SOUTH DAKOTA	COUNTY CLAY	TOWN OR VICINITY VERMILLION
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) INMAN HOUSE		HABS NO. SD-13
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE University of South Dakota, Alumni House		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 415 E. Main Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1882	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The town of Vermillion owes its existence in part to Darwin M. Inman, a New Yorker who arrived in the Dakota Territory in 1874. He was a pioneer businessman, politician and educator. He opened a private bank, the Bank of Vermillion, and played important role in shaping the growth of the Territory by providing the capital and land to settlers (con't. to p. 2)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Neo-classical		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Clapboarding		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The house was originally two stories high before subsequent additions were incorporated into it at the turn of the century. Its present neo-classical design is actually a replacement of the original Italianate design. (Inman concentrated the remodeling on the north (front) and west sides). The original design consisted (con't. to p. 2)		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) It is known that the interior was altered by the Inmans. It is in the classical style and includes hand-painted murals, parlor ceilings, cherry woodwork and 14 kt. gold-trimmed wallpaper.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Apparently little or no alteration has been made to the house since the major changes made by Inman. However, balcony railings have been added.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Good condition. Now used as an Alumni house for the University of South Dakota.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, 1976		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Susan McCown, Historian, Historic American Buildings Survey		DATE 1982

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SIGNIFICANCE (continued from page 1):

during the Land Boom years. His bank later became chartered and was re-named the First National Bank. He served the public as a territorial and state legislator. He was one of the men who founded the University of South Dakota.

In 1881 a flood in Vermillion destroyed original structures. Rebuilding immediately followed. The Inman House was among those newly constructed.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (continued from page 1):

of a rectangular peaked belvedere with gingerbread trim above the front door and brackets for the roof.

The main feature of the house is the projecting two-story neo-classical pavilion on the front (north). Typical classical features are evident: fluted Ionic columns, modillioned pediment with an elliptical window. Same pattern is repeated in the west elevation; the only exception is that it is flush with the wall. There are unique bow windows in the first and second floors on the north and west elevations. These windows give the interior a circular effect and create niches. To the right of the west elevation are the two unusual circular and rectangular windows which give the impression of two roundhead windows. They add character to the interior staircase. The glass of these windows is leaded and beveled. The main doorway has sidelights and a transom of leaded and beveled glass. To the left of this doorway is a large square window with sidelights, also of leaded and beveled glass.

The rear section of the house has a flat-roofed sunroom. It has undergone several alterations.